



## Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

### New Information Is In Blue Text

<b>Event Name</b>	20-0003 COVID-19 2020
<b>Date</b>	March 5, 2021
<b>Time</b>	0900
<b>Operational Period</b>	March 4, 2021 to March 5, 2021
<b>Report Number</b>	351

Region	
<b>Regions Affected</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
<b>DDCs Active</b>	DDCs 1, 2, 3, 4A, 4B, 6, 7, 8, 9A, 9B, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16A, 16B, 16C, 16D, 17, 18A, 18B, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24 & Capitol

**Current Situation:** The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is currently reporting a total of 2,309,124 cases of COVID-19 in the State of Texas which includes an estimated 152,267 active cases. 2,458,818 individuals have recovered from the virus and 43,878 confirmed COVID-19 related fatalities. Across Texas, a total of 19,764,177 COVID-19 molecular tests have been completed.

DSHS is also reporting, Texas has received and distributed a total of 8,888,955 doses of COVID-19 vaccine, which has been administered to 6,089,277 people in 254 Texas Counties.

Visit the DSHS COVID-19 Vaccine Information website:  
<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine.aspx>

Visit the Testing Sites Map online for testing locations near you.  
<https://www.covidtest.tdem.texas.gov/>

View the Governor's Executive Orders issued:  
<https://lrl.texas.gov/legLeaders/governors/displayDocs.cfm?govdoctypeID=5&governorID=45>

The Governor's Report to Open Texas.  
<https://open.texas.gov/uploads/files/organization/opentexas/OpenTexas-Report.pdf>

Texas Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information Page. <https://www.texas.gov/covid19/>

The Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas and a list of guidelines, openings, and relevant dates. <https://open.texas.gov/>

Texas Health and Human Services Family Violence Program.  
<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/safety/family-violence-program>

Texas Health and Human Services Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).  
<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-information-texans/pandemic-ebt-p-ebt-due-covid-19>

Texas Health and Human Services Mental Health and Substance Use Resources.  
<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/mental-health-substance-use/mental-health-substance-use-resources>

One Star Foundation, Texas COVID Relief Fund.  
<http://onestarfoundation.org/txcovidfund/>

Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Help for Texans.  
<https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/texans.htm>

Essential Services. <https://tdem.texas.gov/essentialservices/>

Help essential workers in Texas locate childcare and support childcare centers.  
<https://frontlinechildcare.texas.gov/>

Special WIC Food Updates. <https://texaswic.org/about-wic/special-wic-food-updates>

Comfort Food Care Packages (CFCP). <https://www.txrestaurant.org/news/comfort-food-care-packages-feed-youth-and-families-need-and-stay-open>

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. <https://www.cms.gov/>

Texas Health and Human Services. <https://hhs.texas.gov/>

Texans in need can apply for benefits, including SNAP and Medicaid.  
<https://www.YourTexasBenefits.com>

To apply for unemployment benefits or to request payment  
<https://www.twc.texas.gov/jobseekers/unemployment-benefits-services>

On March 4, Governor Abbott and the Texas Education Agency (TEA) announced that the State of Texas will provide a "hold harmless" to Texas school systems for the rest of the 2020-2021 academic school year only. This means funding will be made available to school systems in Texas that have seen enrollment and attendance declines because of the COVID-19 pandemic, as long as they maintain or increase

current levels of on-campus attendance. Districts will be funded on attendance in line with projections made prior to the public health crisis. This will ensure that school systems in Texas can retain their teachers for the 2020-21 school year for whom they originally budgeted. This final semester of hold harmless means districts have been held harmless for three consecutive semesters — Spring Semester of the 2019-20 academic year and the entirety of the 2020-21 academic year.

"As more districts return to in-person instruction, we are ensuring that schools are not financially penalized for declines in attendance due to COVID-19," said Governor Abbott. "Providing a hold harmless for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year is a crucial part of our state's commitment to supporting our school systems and teachers and getting more students back in the classroom."

"My goal is to get all of our students back in the classroom and this hold harmless funding will ensure our public schools can complete the school year and continue to bring students back to campuses for in-person learning. As always, we are grateful to those teachers across the state who have worked tirelessly during the pandemic to keep our students on track," said Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick.

"The State of Texas is committed to getting more students back into the classroom for in-person instruction and fully funding our schools – despite challenges that occurred as a result of COVID-19. I fully support the decision to provide necessary funding and maintain our commitment to Texas schools," said Speaker Dade Phelan.

"The legislature was already dedicated to fulfilling the commitments made in House Bill 3 from last session. The financial stability provided by this hold harmless will further support our schools in their efforts to help our students meet the challenges brought on by COVID-19," said Senator Larry Taylor.

"It would be an understatement to say that Texas families have been negatively affected by the COVID environment. And perhaps those most affected have been our public school students who have had to educate remotely or not at all. Texas should do everything possible to get these students back to school but school districts must not be penalized financially for the absence of these students. That is why this hold harmless provision is a financial must for Texas school districts," said Representative Harold Dutton.

Data has shown throughout the COVID-19 pandemic that schools are safe. School systems in Texas must follow public health guidance issued by TEA, which establishes a variety of effective virus mitigation strategies for schools. Based on this guidance, school districts are widely employing a range of measures including masks, screening practices, improvements in ventilation, the use of rapid COVID-19 tests, and improved hygiene procedures. Additionally, all Texas teachers and school staff are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine in Texas.

In normal times, schools are funded based on the students enrolled and the daily attendance on campus. This year, TEA prioritized flexibility to ensure essential funding

support for school systems, by providing full funding based on daily attendance, whether the attendance was in-person or remote. The hold harmless, which was previously provided in the first semester of the school year, allocates funding above the statutory guaranteed level of funding for students who are not enrolled, or for students who attend (even if remotely) less frequently. For the current second semester, it is being provided as long as on-campus attendance participation rates do not decline or those rates otherwise remain high (at least 80 percent).

TEA has published on its Coronavirus resource website documents that note the baseline on-campus attendance participation rates of every Texas school system in the fall of 2020.

More details on the specifics of the hold harmless calculation can be found in TEA's Attendance and Enrollment Funding FAQ.

On March 2, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order (GA-34) lifting the mask mandate in Texas and increasing capacity of all businesses and facilities in the state to 100 percent. The Governor made the announcement at Montelongo's Mexican Restaurant in Lubbock in an address to the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce.

During his remarks, the Governor discussed the incredible advancements that Texas has made that allow the state to open fully and lift the mask mandate—noting the rapid increase of vaccines. Nearly 5.7 million vaccine shots have been administered to Texans, and the state is now administering almost one million shots each week. By next Wednesday, about 7 million shots will have been administered in Texas and over half of seniors in Texas will have received a vaccine shot. By the end of March, every senior who wants a vaccine should be able to get one. The vaccine supply continues to increase so rapidly that more and more Texans will soon be eligible to receive a vaccine.

The Governor noted that Texas has a surplus of personal protective equipment and can perform over 100,000 COVID-19 tests a day. The state has invested in a variety of anti-body therapeutic drugs that have kept thousands of Texans out of hospitals. Texans have also adopted daily habits that reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure and infection. More than 2.5 million Texans who were lab confirmed for COVID-19 have recovered since the beginning of the pandemic, and experts note the total number of Texans who have recovered from COVID-19 is likely 4-5 times that amount. The number of active COVID-19 cases is the lowest since November—meaning more Texans are recovering from COVID-19 than contracting it.

This executive order rescinds most of the Governor's earlier executive orders related to COVID-19. Effective next Wednesday, March 10, all businesses of any type may open to 100% capacity. Additionally, this order ends the statewide mask mandate in Texas. Businesses may still limit capacity or implement additional safety protocols at their own discretion.

If COVID-19 hospitalizations in any of the 22 hospital regions in Texas get above 15%

of the hospital bed capacity in that region for seven straight days, a County Judge in that region may use COVID-19 mitigation strategies. However, County Judges may not impose jail time for not following COVID-19 orders nor may any penalties be imposed for failing to wear a face mask. If restrictions are imposed at a County level, those restrictions may not include reducing capacity to less than 50% for any type of entity.

[View the Governor's Executive Order.](#)

On March 1, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Division of Emergency (TDEM), the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), and the Texas Military Department (TMD) have announced 26 participating counties for the first week of the Save Our Seniors initiative.

Counties participating in the first round of the program are Aransas, Bastrop, Brewster, Brooks, Brown, Cass, Dallas, Eastland, Freestone, Gray, Hill, Hockley, Hudspeth, Hutchinson, Irion, Lee, McCulloch, Medina, Morris, Panola, Rains, Refugio, Robertson, San Jacinto, Shelby, and Webb.

In coordination with local and state partners, counties and cities have been selected based on data provided from DSHS related to the following factors:

1. The state targeted areas with ongoing high hospitalizations;
2. The state looked at the number of approved providers serving the area;
3. The state took into account areas who reported no more than approximately a third vaccinated for seniors;
4. The state took into account total allocations over the previous 12 weeks;
5. The state utilized data showing the least vaccinated counties for both 65+ and 75+ administered doses;
6. The state focused on allocating vaccine equitably across the state.

On February 26, Governor Abbott and the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) will provide approximately \$229 million in emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits for the month of March as the state continues its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

HHSC received federal approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to extend the maximum, allowable amount of SNAP benefits to recipients based on family size. The emergency March allotments are in addition to the more than \$2.5 billion in benefits previously provided to Texans since April 2020.

Recipients will also continue to receive a 15 percent increase in their total benefits, which will continue monthly until June 2021. This additional 15 percent increase and the emergency allotment amount should appear in recipients' accounts by March 31.

On February 25, Governor Abbott held a press conference in Corpus Christi where he announced the statewide Save Our Seniors initiative to vaccinate homebound seniors across Texas. During the press conference, the Governor also commended the Corpus

Christi Fire Department, Meals on Wheels of Corpus Christi, and the City of Corpus Christi for the success of their homebound senior vaccination program which serves as a model for the statewide initiative.

As part of the statewide Save Our Seniors Initiative, the state will deploy more than 1,100 National Guardsmen to assist communities in vaccinating homebound seniors. The guardsmen will be broken up into teams that will deploy across the state. Some members of these teams will focus on identifying and registering homebound seniors for the program while others will visit homes and administer vaccines. The state is dedicating up to 8,000 vaccines to this initiative for the first week and will work with organizations like Meals On Wheels and nursing groups to identify homebound seniors who volunteer to be vaccinated. The program will launch Monday.

On February 11, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), in partnership with the Texas Military Department (TMD), will deploy State Mobile Vaccination Teams (SMVT) to five additional underserved counties: San Saba, Goliad, Sterling, Jeff Davis, and Crockett. SMVTs previously deployed to Motley, Glasscock, Kenedy, Terrell, McMullen, DeWitt, Marion, Real, Sherman, and Starr counties as part of the State Mobile Vaccine Pilot Program.

On February 10, Governor Abbott announced that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is establishing mass community vaccination sites in the DFW Metroplex and Houston. These federal pilot sites, which will be based at AT&T Stadium, Fair Park, and NRG Stadium, are part of a joint effort to support vaccination efforts in underserved areas. The sites will be operated by FEMA in partnership with the state of Texas through the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) and local officials.

Preparations and buildout of these three locations is now underway, and the sites are expected to be open to eligible members of the public beginning February 24. Registration details for appointments at these locations will be announced in the coming days.

On February 9, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) has launched the Texas Rent Relief Program — the first statewide rent and utility assistance program for qualifying households throughout Texas. This program has been created to administer the more than \$1 billion allocated to Texas through the latest federal COVID-19 stimulus bill. TDHCA will begin accepting applications for the program on Monday, February 15th, but Texans can visit [TexasRentRelief.com](https://www.texasrentrelief.com) starting today to learn more about qualifications, required documents, and the application process.

On February 4, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), in partnership with the Texas Military Department (TMD), is deploying State Mobile Vaccination Teams (SMVT) to five additional counties this week: Motley, Glasscock, Kenedy, Terrell, and McMullen.

On February 4, Governor Abbott announced the extension of the COVID-19 Disaster Declaration.

On February 2, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) will provide approximately \$300 million in emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits for the month of February.

On January 28, Governor Abbott and the Texas Education Agency (TEA) launched an online application for the Supplementary Special Education Services (SSES) program, which allows eligible families of children with significant cognitive disabilities and complex educational needs to apply for a \$1,500 online account to be used in the SSES marketplace.

On January 27, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has deployed 80 military medical personnel to assist in the COVID-19 response in Abilene, Lufkin, and Eagle Pass.

On January 27, Governor Abbott and TDEM announced the creation of the State Mobile Vaccine Pilot Program to ramp up COVID-19 vaccination efforts in underserved areas of Texas.

On January 25, Governor Abbott announced that the TDEM, in partnership with the City of Lubbock, Lubbock County, Covenant Health System, and UMC Health System, has established an Alternate Care Site in Lubbock to expand hospital capacity in the region.

On January 25, Governor Abbott also announced that TDEM has expanded the COVID-19 therapeutic infusion center in Austin. With added support provided by TDEM, including 24 additional infusion chairs, staff, and medical equipment, the infusion center will be able to increase capacity to treat a greater number of COVID-19 patients each day.

On January 22, Governor Abbott and TDEM announced the expansion of the COVID-19 Rapid Testing Program for front line workers at Texas small businesses by dedicating 1 million BinaxNow Rapid Tests to the program.

On January 22, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM have surged medical personnel, equipment, testing supplies, and personal protective equipment (PPE) to Laredo to help combat COVID-19 and support hospitals in the region.

On January 19, Governor Abbott held a roundtable discussion alongside healthcare professionals at Houston Methodist Hospital to highlight his legislative priorities to ensure a healthier future for the state of Texas.

On January 14, Governor Abbott and DSHS announced that that State of Texas has administered more than 1 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine—making Texas the national leader in vaccinations.



On January 12, 2021, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, in partnership with Travis County, the City of Austin, and the Capital Area Trauma Regional Advisory Council, has established an Alternate Care Site in Austin to expand hospital capacity in the region.

On January 11, 2021, Governor Abbott held a press conference in Arlington where he provided an update on Texas' COVID-19 vaccine distribution efforts.

On January 9, 2021, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has established two new COVID-19 therapeutic infusion centers in Fort Worth and Irving.

On January 8, 2021, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced their Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan initiative will reopen for certain new and existing borrowers. Governor Abbott announced that the TDEM has launched a therapeutic infusion center in Laredo to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19.

On January 4, 2021, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has established a COVID-19 therapeutic infusion center in Austin to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19.

On December 30, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM secured an extension of four Community Based Testing Sites (CBTS) in Houston and Harris County through January 31, 2021 or until the sites reach maximum capacity of conducting 50,000 COVID-19 tests.

On December 28, Governor Abbott and DSHS are alerting nursing facilities to the availability of monoclonal antibody therapies that can be used to treat residents who have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

On December 22, Governor Abbott received the COVID-19 vaccine at Ascension-Seton Medical Center in Austin.

On December 18, Governor Abbott held a call with hospital CEOs and representatives across Texas to discuss the importance of COVID-19 therapeutic antibody treatments in the state's fight against COVID-19.

On December 17, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has established a COVID-19 therapeutic infusion center in Harlingen to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19.

On December 14, Governor Abbott visited the White House where he attended a briefing on Operation Warp Speed with Vice President Mike Pence and other state and federal leaders.

On December 11, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas will participate in the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program, a federal program to vaccinate residents and staff of long-term care facilities against COVID-19.

On December 7, Governor Abbott and TDEM launched a COVID-19 Rapid Testing Pilot



Program for front line workers at Texas small businesses.

On December 3, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC will provide approximately \$204 million in emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits for the month of December as the state continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On December 2, Governor Abbott announced that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has made an initial allotment of over 1.4 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccines to the State of Texas for the month of December.

On November 24, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has established a bamlanivimab infusion wing at the state-run alternate care site (ACS) in El Paso to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19.

On November 23, Governor Abbott and DSHS announced the guiding principles for Texas' COVID-19 vaccine allocation process, which will serve as a foundation for the state's initial distribution for COVID-19 vaccines expected as early as next month.

Texas will initially allocate COVID-19 vaccines based on the following criteria:

- Protecting health care workers who fill a critical role in caring for and preserving the lives of COVID-19 patients and maintaining the health care infrastructure for all who need it.
- Protecting frontline workers who are at greater risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of their work providing critical services and preserving the economy.
- Protecting vulnerable populations who are at greater risk of severe disease and death if they contract COVID-19.
- Mitigating health inequities due to factors such as demographics, poverty, insurance status and geography.
- Data-driven allocations using the best available scientific evidence and epidemiology at the time, allowing for flexibility for local conditions.
- Geographic diversity through a balanced approach that considers access in urban and rural communities and in affected ZIP codes.
- Transparency through sharing allocations with the public and seeking public feedback.

On November 19, Governor Abbott traveled to Lubbock to hold a briefing with local officials and provide an update on the distribution of bamlanivimab, the Eli Lilly & Company monoclonal antibody therapy for COVID-19.

On November 18, Governor Abbott announced a \$420 million reimbursement program to cover costs incurred by Texas public schools that purchased Wi-Fi hotspots and/or eLearning devices (such as laptops, tablets, and Chromebooks) so students could learn remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On November 11, Governor Abbott deployed additional resources to El Paso and Lubbock to help combat COVID-19 in these communities.

On November 10, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas has prepared allocation plans to swiftly distribute medicines and vaccines that are now becoming available to treat COVID-19.

On November 6, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has deployed three U.S. Air Force Medical Specialty Teams to assist the state's efforts to combat COVID-19 in El Paso. Governor Abbott also renewed the statewide disaster declaration for COVID-19.

On November 5, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC will provide approximately \$202 million in emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits for the month of November as the state continues its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On October 26, as part of the Trump Administration's comprehensive national effort to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and to assist the nation's Governors in doing so, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is sending 8,730,000 state-of-the-art Abbott BinaxNOW COVID-19 point of care antigen tests to the State of Texas.

On October 25, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM is establishing an alternate care site (ACS) in El Paso to expand hospital capacity in the region.

On October 24, Governor Abbott held a call with Dr. Robert Kadlec, the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) at the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), to discuss hospital capacity needs in the City of El Paso.

On October 22, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM are surging additional medical personnel and equipment to the El Paso region to assist with the community's COVID-19 response.

On October 16, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM have surged medical personnel, medical supplies, and personal protective equipment (PPE) to the Panhandle and South Plains areas to support hospitals in their COVID-19 response.

On October 15, TDEM updated the criteria for a county exemption from the Texas Executive Order GA-29 face-covering requirement. TDEM has promulgated the following criteria for a county exemption from the face-covering requirement of GA-29:

- The county must have 30 or fewer new COVID-19 cases during the previous 14-day period.
- The county judge of a county with 30 or fewer new COVID-19 cases during the previous 14-day period must submit an exemption form affirmatively opting out.
- If a county exceeds 30 new COVID-19 cases during a 14-day period, the county

judge will be notified via email by TDEM, the county name will be removed from this website, and the county will be required to comply with all aspects of GA-29. After a 14-day waiting period, if the county has fewer than 30 new COVID-19 cases during the previous 14-day period, the county judge will be eligible to reapply for exemption. Visit <https://tdem.texas.gov/ga29/> for more details.

On October 14, Governor Abbott, the Texas Education Agency (TEA), and TDEM announced the creation of a COVID-19 Rapid Testing Pilot Program for Texas school systems.

On October 12, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM have surged medical personnel and PPE to El Paso to help combat COVID-19 and support hospitals in the region.

On October 9, Governor Abbott announced the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) will receive more than \$20 million in additional federal funding for disaster crisis counseling services for Texans impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

On October 8, Governor Abbott amended the paragraph of Executive Order GA-31 that defines areas with high hospitalizations.

On October 7, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order to open bars and similar establishments at up to 50% capacity in conjunction with county officials. The Governor's Executive Order also increases the occupancy levels for all business establishments other than bars to 75%. Governor Abbott renewed the State Disaster Declaration for COVID-19.

On October 2, Governor Abbott and HHSC announced \$3.5 million in federal funding for nursing facilities to purchase plexiglass barriers and tents to allow for safe visitation during the COVID- 19 pandemic.

On September 30, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is partnering with the State of Texas and local officials to offer temporary COVID-19 surge testing in McLennan County. HHS has allocated 40,000 COVID-19 tests for this effort. Governor Abbott announced that HHSC will provide approximately \$196 million in emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits for the month of October as the state continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On September 25, Governor Abbott announced that Texas' major health insurers have agreed to continue reimbursing network health care providers for telehealth appointments at the same rate which they pay for office visits through the end of 2020. Also, Governor Abbott announced the allocation of over \$171 million in funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act which will primarily be used for targeted rental assistance for Texans at risk of

becoming homeless due to eviction.

On September 17, Governor Abbott issued Executive Orders expanding occupancy levels at 75% for restaurants, retail stores, office buildings, manufacturing facilities, gyms and exercise facilities and classes, museums, and libraries, and re-authorizing elective surgeries for a majority of the state of Texas beginning September 21. Three of the 22 TSAs (S-Victoria, T-Laredo, and V-Lower Rio Grande Valley) must remain at 50% occupancy and continue postponing elective surgeries until the hospitalization metric requirements are met.

On September 7, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation extending his Disaster Declaration for all Texas counties in response to COVID-19.

On August 31, Governor Abbott announced the Texas HHSC will provide approximately \$188 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of September as Texas continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On August 21, Governor Abbott issued a statement after the federal government approved nearly \$1.4 billion in initial funds made available through President Trump's Lost Wage Assistance Executive Order.

On August 20, Governor Abbott announced that TEA, in partnership with Local Education Agencies, has procured more than 1 million personal devices and internet WiFi hotspots as part of the State's Operation Connectivity Initiative.

On August 13, Governor Abbott traveled to El Paso to meet with state representatives and local leaders to discuss the community's response to COVID-19.

On August 12, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. HHS has extended operations for four temporary COVID-19 surge testing sites in Harris County.

On August 11, Governor Abbott traveled to Beaumont and Victoria to hold a briefing with local officials and state representatives on the ongoing COVID-19 response in Jefferson County.

On August 8, Governor Abbott extended his Disaster Declaration for all Texas counties in response to COVID-19.

On August 7, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. HHS has established four temporary COVID-19 surge testing sites. For hours of operation and registration details, visit [www.doineedacovid19test.com](http://www.doineedacovid19test.com).

On August 6, Governor Abbott announced that the Houston Astros and TDEM have teamed up to open a free COVID-19 testing site at Minute Maid Park in Houston. The testing site will be able to process 2,000 tests per day and began operations on Saturday, August 8. Testing will run from 8:00 AM through 4:00 PM seven days per

week. To book an appointment and learn more, visit [Texas.curativeinc.com](https://texas.curativeinc.com).

On August 4, Governor Abbott visited the McAllen Convention Center for the opening of the temporary health care facility which will help increase the Rio Grande Valley's hospital capacity during the COVID-19 pandemic. Governor Abbott also announced that President Trump has extended federal funding for the Texas National Guard's mission to help combat COVID-19 in communities across the state.

On July 31, Governor Abbott held virtual meetings with Mayors, County Judges, Emergency Managers, Hospital Executives, State Legislators, and other local officials from the cities of Laredo and Eagle Pass to discuss ongoing efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19.

On July 24, Governor Abbott and the Texas Military Department (TMD) announced Joint Task Force Texas, a newly formed partnership between the Texas National Guard and Active Duty and Reservists to strengthen COVID-19 response efforts in Texas. Texas Air National Guard Brig. Gen. Thomas Suelzer, appointed as the dual-status commander, serves as the commander of both Texas National Guard and federal service members.

On July 23, The Office of The Governor and Guadalupe Zamora, MD, of Zamora Medical Center released a new English-Spanish language public service announcement (PSA) urging communities to work together to protect vulnerable Texans from COVID-19.

On July 22, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas will allocate an additional \$118 million in federal funding to support higher education in Texas, including \$93 million to help students continue or restart their progress toward earning a post-secondary credential or degree.

On July 21, Governor Abbott held virtual meetings with mayors, county judges, emergency managers, hospital executives, state legislators, and other local officials from Cameron and Hidalgo Counties to discuss the unified efforts to combat COVID-19 in these communities.

On July 19, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Defense has sent five U.S. Navy teams to four locations in South and Southwest Texas to help combat the spread of COVID-19.

On July 17, Governor Abbott, Lieutenant Governor Patrick, House Speaker Bonnen, Senate Finance Committee Chair Nelson, Vice Chair Hinojosa, and House Appropriations Committee Chair Capriglione and Vice Chair Longoria announced that the State of Texas will allocate \$200 million in CARES Act funding to the TEA for the purchase of eLearning devices and home internet solutions to enable remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic for Texas students that lack connectivity.

On July 15, Governor Abbott announced that his Public Safety Office (PSO) will provide \$41 million in federal funds to assist cities and counties throughout the COVID-19 response.

On July 13, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Defense has activated additional U.S. Army Urban Augmentation Medical Task Forces (UAMTF) to assist the state's efforts to combat COVID-19.

On July 10, Governor Abbott extended the COVID-19 Disaster Proclamation to further mitigate the spread of the virus. He also announced that Omnicare, a CVS Health company, is partnering with the State of Texas to provide COVID-19 point of care testing for assisted living facilities and nursing homes throughout the state.

On July 9, Governor Abbott issued a Proclamation suspending elective surgeries in hospitals in all counties located within 11 Trauma Service Areas (TSAs) in Texas.

On July 8, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas will invest \$57 million in federal funds to maintain the state's need-based financial aid programs and keep more students enrolled at their colleges and universities.

On July 4, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS is distributing 448 cases of the antiviral drug Remdesivir to 157 hospitals across Texas.

On July 2, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order requiring all Texans to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth in public spaces in counties with 20 or more positive COVID-19 cases, with few exceptions. The Governor also issued a proclamation giving mayors and county judges the ability to impose restrictions on some outdoor gatherings of over ten people, and making it mandatory that, with certain exceptions, people cannot be in groups larger than ten and must maintain six feet of social distancing from others. Governor Abbott and HHSC announced that \$2.67 billion in federal funding has been approved to support Texas hospitals that provide care for people receiving Medicaid.

On June 30, Governor Abbott and HHSC announced \$9 million in federal funding for nursing facilities to implement infection control. Also, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation suspending elective surgeries at hospitals in Cameron, Hidalgo, Nueces, and Webb counties to help ensure hospital bed availability for COVID-19 patients in these communities.

On June 26, Governor Abbott issued an executive order limiting certain businesses and services as part of the state's effort to contain the spread of COVID-19. Governor Abbott also announced that the federal government has granted his request to extend operations of Community Based Testing Sites across Texas.

On June 25, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission enacted new emergency rules related to health and safety standards for child day care operations. Governor Abbott also issued an Executive Order to ensure hospital bed availability for COVID-19 patients as Texas faces an increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations.

On June 24, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, in partnership with the Texas Military Department (TMD), will begin distributing 3-ply surgical masks to every Texan who undergoes COVID-19 testing at state-run mobile test collection sites.

On June 23, As COVID-19 cases rise in Texas, Governor Abbott has expanded the ability of mayors and county judges to impose restrictions on outdoor gatherings of over 100 people.

On June 16, Governor Abbott and Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs of the University of Texas (UT) System John Zerwas, MD, provided an update on Texas' hospital capacity.

On June 11, Governor Abbott extended the Disaster Declaration for all counties in the State of Texas amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

On June 9, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS is distributing additional cases of the antiviral drug Remdesivir to 85 hospitals across 34 counties in Texas.

On June 8, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM is coordinating with local officials, public health officials, and emergency management offices in cities across the state to identify and rapidly expand COVID-19 testing in underserved and minority communities that have been disproportionately impacted by the virus.

On June 3, Governor Abbott announced the third phase of the State of Texas' plan to safely open the economy while containing the spread of COVID-19. Under Phase III, effective immediately, all businesses in Texas will be able to operate at up to 50% capacity, with very limited exceptions.

On May 27, Governor Abbott and HHSC announced \$3.6 million in funding for nursing facilities to purchase tablets, webcams, and headphones to connect residents with their loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On May 21, Governor Greg Abbott directed HHSC to expand COVID-19 testing to all patients, residents, and staff at the 23 state-operated inpatient psychiatric hospitals and living centers throughout Texas.

On May 15, Governor Abbott and TDEM announced that local fire departments in Texas are partnering with local public health authorities to provide testing in nursing homes throughout the state.



On May 14, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas National Guard has activated Facilities Disinfection Teams to support Texans in nursing homes and to help limit the spread of COVID-19.

On May 13, Governor Abbott waived license renewal late fees that accrued between March 13 and June 15, 2020 for occupational licenses issued by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

On May 12, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC has received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide more than \$1 billion in food benefits through the federal Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program to families with children who have temporarily lost access to free or discounted school meals due to COVID-19-related school closures.

On May 11, Governor Abbott directed HHSC, TDEM, and DSHS to test 100% of residents and staff in Texas nursing homes.

On May 8, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Category B (Emergency Protective Measures) assistance funding to provide financial support to Texas' network of food banks.

On May 6, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC has received \$5.8 million in federal funding to provide crisis counseling services to Texans who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

On April 30, Governor Abbott announced that TWC has issued new guidance to unemployment claimants concerning their eligibility for unemployment benefits should they choose not to return to work at this time due to COVID-19.

On April 27, Governor Abbott announced the first phase of the State of Texas' ongoing plan to safely and strategically open Texas while minimizing the spread of COVID-19.

On April 23, Governor Abbott announced that Texas A&M Service will provide a series of free online trainings to help local officials understand, acquire, and administer federal assistance available to the state of Texas and municipalities through the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act and recently passed CARES Act. Governor Abbott also announced that HHSC will receive nearly \$54 million in federal funds to support older Texans and people with disabilities during the COVID-19 response.

On April 22, Governor Abbott temporarily waived certain restrictions to allow Texas higher education institutions to transfer all unexpended student financial aid funds from the Texas College Work-Study (TCWS) program to other financial aid programs that do not have a work- study requirement to ensure students will continue receiving financial assistance.

On April 20, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas National Guard will be mobilizing more than 1,200 personnel as part of COVID-19 mobile testing teams (MTT). With reports of elevated scams and fraudulent activity preying on the public and consumers disguised as COVID-19 relief and assistance, local, state, and federal response includes guidance, investigation, and prosecution.

- Federal Trade Commission: <https://www.ftc.gov/coronavirus>
- Federal Bureau of Investigation: <https://www.fbi.gov/coronavirus>
- Texas Attorney General: <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov>
- US Attorney's Office: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndtx/report-covid-19-fraud>
- Federal Communications Commission: <https://www.fcc.gov/covid-scams>

On April 9, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC has adopted an emergency rule to temporarily allow more nurse aides to serve residents in long-term care facilities during the COVID-19 response.

On April 8, Governor Abbott suspended certain statutes concerning appearance before a notary public to execute a self-proved will, a durable power of attorney, a medical power of attorney, a directive to physician, or an oath of an executor, administrator, or guardian. Governor Abbott also announced that his Public Safety Office (PSO) will provide a one- time emergency waiver of the federally required cash or in-kind match contribution required for the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and Stop Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant funds. Also, Governor Abbott announced that Texas HHSC will provide more than \$168 million in emergency SNAP food benefits to help Texans during the COVID-19 response.

On April 6, HHSC, Texas WIC, the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, is expanding the number of food items eligible for purchase through the program.

On April 5, Governor Abbott temporarily waived certain regulations to expand the health care workforce to assist with Texas' COVID-19 response.

On April 3, Governor Abbott held a press conference to provide an update on Texas hospital capacity. Texas has increased by over 140% since March 18.

On April 1, Governor Abbott and TDHCA took initial action to provide tenant-based rental assistance for Texans experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19.

On March 31, Governor Abbott announced the Comfort Food Care Package (CFCP) program to provide meals for at-risk youth and families in communities across Texas as the state responds to COVID-19.

On March 28, Governor Abbott waived certain regulations allowing for an expedited

licensing reactivation process for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) in Texas. The Governor also waived certain licensing renewal regulations for Texas pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy technician trainees.

On March 27, Governor Abbott announced the deployment of three National Guard Joint Task Force Brigades. The 72nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, the 56th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, and the 176th Engineer Brigade also Governor Abbott waived certain Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) regulations to preserve and extend childcare capacity for front line workers.

On March 25, Governor Abbott released a statement thanking President Trump for issuing a Major Disaster Declaration (DR-4485) for the State of Texas.

On March 23, Governor Abbott sent a letter to President Trump requesting a presidential declaration of a major disaster in Texas based on the continued impact of COVID-19. Chief Nim Kidd has been designated the Governor's Authorized Representative and State Coordinating Officer, tasked with continuing his coordination with FEMA on all matters related to COVID-19.

On March 20, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) warned consumers about unauthorized fraudulent coronavirus tests. Governor Abbott also announced that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has included the entire state of Texas in its Economic Injury Disaster Declaration and granted access to its Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program.

On March 19, the Commissioner of the Department of State Health Services, Dr. John Hellerstedt, issued a Public Health Disaster Declaration in Texas. Governor Abbott issued a proclamation suspending provisions of the Texas Election Code to allow political subdivisions to postpone their 2020 local elections. Governor Abbott and TEA announced a collaboration with Local Education Agencies (LEA) on the Texas Students Meal Finder Map which will allow Texas parents to locate LEA facilities serving meals in their communities.

On March 17, Governor Abbott waived certain regulations and directed that the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) issue an emergency rule, relating to telemedicine care for patients with state-regulated insurance plans.

On March 14, Governor Abbott, directed the Texas Medical Board (TMB) and the Texas Board of Nursing (TBN) to fast-track the temporary licensing of out-of-state physicians, physician assistants, certain retired physicians, nurses, and other license types to assist in Texas' response to COVID-19.

On March 13, the President of the United States Donald Trump declared that the COVID-19 global pandemic is a national emergency. On the same day, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat in the state and declared a state of disaster for all 254 counties in Texas. The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Commissioner Sid Miller announced TDA

has been granted flexibility from the federal school meal program to allow Texas schools to continue to provide meals to students even if temporarily closed.

### **Texas COVID-19 Cases, March 4, 2021**

<b>County of Residence</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>County of Residence</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>County of Residence</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>County of Residence</b>	<b>Cases</b>
Anderson	4,800	Donley	171	Kaufman	12,712	Real	272
Andrews	1,694	Duval	1,050	Kendall	1,605	Red River	396
Angelina	4,666	Eastland	914	Kenedy	17	Reeves	1,002
Aransas	869	Ector	8,442	Kent	35	Refugio	562
Archer	677	Edwards	198	Kerr	2,171	Roberts	52
Armstrong	107	El Paso	124,812	Kimble	205	Robertson	1,615
Atascosa	4,067	Ellis	18,082	King	5	Rockwall	8,775
Austin	1,556	Erath	2,719	Kinney	324	Runnels	770
Bailey	582	Falls	1,835	Kleberg	1,805	Rusk	2,113
Bandera	918	Fannin	2,547	Knox	171	Sabine	167
Bastrop	6,564	Fayette	1,421	La Salle	874	San Augustine	326
Baylor	122	Fisher	290	Lamar	2,585	San Jacinto	746
Bee	3,017	Floyd	321	Lamb	1,537	San Patricio	3,080
Bell	20,717	Foard	87	Lampasas	1,739	San Saba	550
Bexar	168,342	Fort Bend	51,075	Lavaca	1,863	Schleicher	120
Blanco	571	Franklin	490	Lee	961	Scurry	2,261
Borden	14	Freestone	1,039	Leon	1,213	Shackelford	126
Bosque	1,309	Frio	2,103	Liberty	5,473	Shelby	880
Bowie	4,585	Gaines	1,412	Limestone	2,079	Sherman	175
Brazoria	28,045	Galveston	30,160	Lipscomb	274	Smith	11,005
Brazos	17,532	Garza	217	Live Oak	860	Somervell	580
Brewster	807	Gillespie	1,659	Llano	1,079	Starr	7,416
Briscoe	77	Glasscock	37	Loving	1	Stephens	412
Brooks	646	Goliad	285	Lubbock	48,196	Sterling	47
Brown	1,917	Gonzales	2,284	Lynn	608	Stonewall	48
Burleson	1,820	Gray	1,712	Madison	1,654	Sutton	273
Burnet	3,804	Grayson	10,853	Marion	338	Swisher	393
Caldwell	4,929	Gregg	5,914	Martin	363	Tarrant	207,093
Calhoun	1,640	Grimes	3,129	Mason	241	Taylor	7,036
Callahan	588	Guadalupe	10,209	Matagorda	2,801	Terrell	64
Cameron	37,518	Hale	6,048	Maverick	10,216	Terry	1,680
Camp	797	Hall	323	McCulloch	390	Throckmorton	49
Carson	253	Hamilton	694	McLennan	25,237	Titus	2,667
Cass	1,130	Hansford	366	McMullen	63	Tom Green	4,574
Castro	651	Hardeman	311	Medina	3,673	Travis	76,274
Chambers	4,297	Hardin	2,435	Menard	140	Trinity	478
Cherokee	2,231	Harris	355,065	Midland	16,236	Tyler	520
Childress	1,311	Harrison	2,351	Milam	1,343	Upshur	1,291

County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases
Clay	922	Hartley	503	Mills	577	Upton	69
Cochran	224	Haskell	195	Mitchell	585	Uvalde	3,339
Coke	244	Hays	16,435	Montague	1,709	Val Verde	7,717
Coleman	473	Hemphill	503	Montgomery	37,405	Van Zandt	2,493
Collin	70,184	Henderson	3,722	Moore	1,954	Victoria	7,938
Collingsworth	189	Hidalgo	51,337	Morris	565	Walker	7,644
Colorado	1,293	Hill	3,656	Motley	36	Waller	3,054
Comal	4,874	Hockley	2,063	Nacogdoches	3,181	Ward	659
Comanche	1,142	Hood	4,159	Navarro	3,390	Washington	3,044
Concho	178	Hopkins	1,523	Newton	280	Webb	42,757
Cooke	3,060	Houston	864	Nolan	1,499	Wharton	3,380
Coryell	6,604	Howard	2,985	Nueces	25,799	Wheeler	434
Cottle	140	Hudspeth	422	Ochiltree	929	Wichita	14,615
Crane	207	Hunt	5,255	Oldham	115	Wilbarger	1,589
Crockett	216	Hutchinson	1,074	Orange	3,757	Willacy	2,270
Crosby	318	Irion	46	Palo Pinto	2,407	Williamson	35,738
Culberson	324	Jack	524	Panola	947	Wilson	3,134
Dallam	786	Jackson	1,453	Parker	11,968	Winkler	534
Dallas	246,627	Jasper	919	Parmer	830	Wise	5,852
Dawson	1,711	Jeff Davis	146	Pecos	1,242	Wood	1,880
DeWitt	1,855	Jefferson	18,282	Polk	1,388	Yoakum	863
Deaf Smith	1,985	Jim Hogg	572	Potter	16,931	Young	1,892
Delta	172	Jim Wells	3,486	Presidio	625	Zapata	1,535
Denton	49,833	Johnson	16,136	Rains	385	Zavala	1,622
Dickens	99	Jones	2,059	Randall	16,241	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,309,124</b>
Dimmit	1,351	Karnes	1,599	Reagan	193		

DSHS will update the state case count each day by 4:00 PM Central Time.

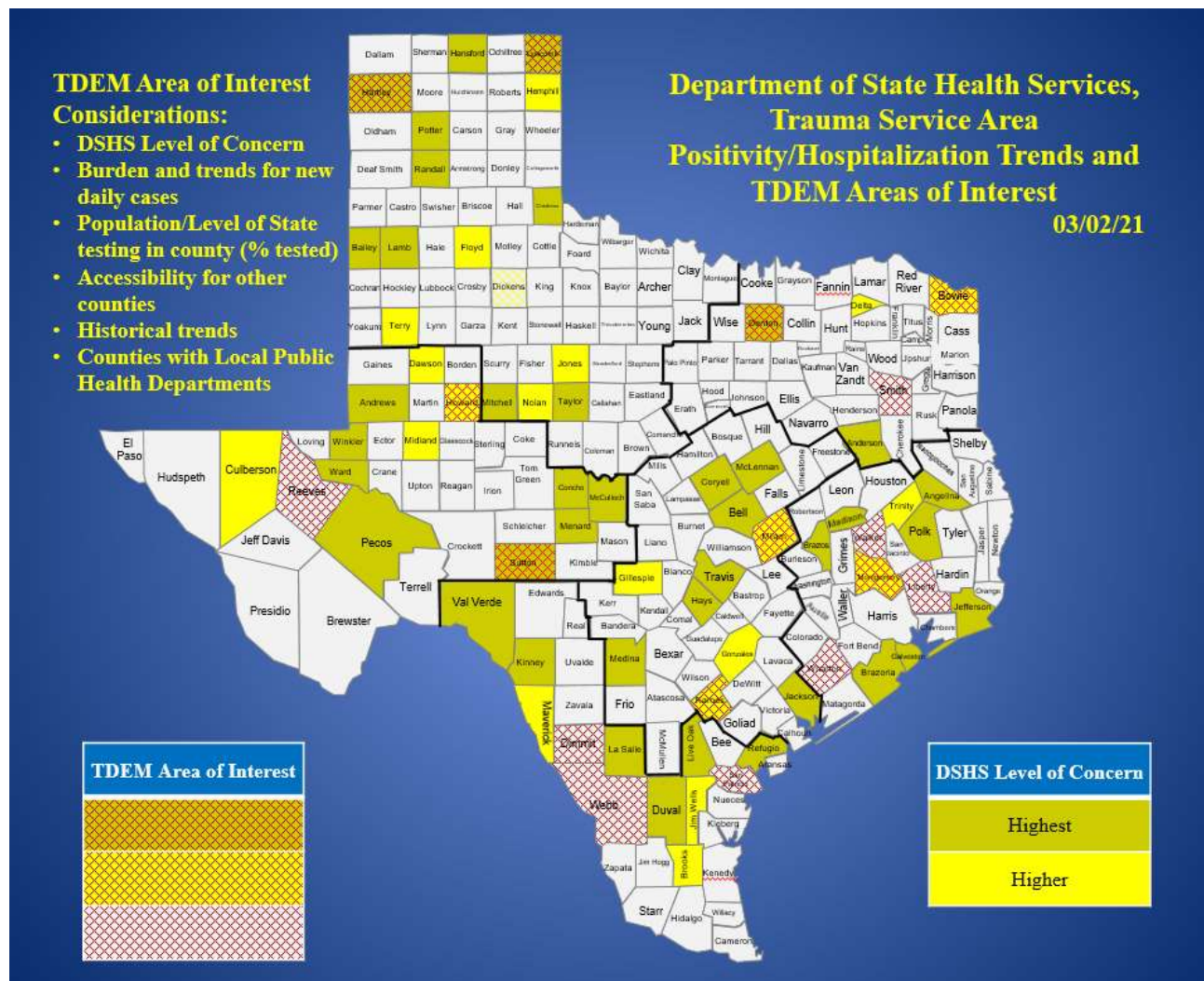
### OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

1. Protect life and property.
2. Protect vulnerable populations.
3. Support rapid & effective response.
4. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
5. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.
6. Expand and maximize bed capacity.
7. Develop alternative care sites to support local governments and the health care systems.
8. Acquire supplies/equipment to support health care and testing.
9. Ensure visibility on progression of the disease.
10. Support local governments.

### RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS:



**Texas Division of Emergency Management Texas A&M University System (TDEM):** The State of Texas State Operations Center remains at Readiness Level II Escalated Response Conditions, with Daily Operations staff processing disaster declarations, letters to the Governor, Disaster Summary Outlines, State of Texas Assistance Requests (STARs), as well as severe weather messages, and preparing Snapshots and the state SITREP. The State Management Team (SMT) continues conducting operations in the State Operations Center, working together with activated members of the State's Emergency Management Council. TDEM District Coordinators are working closely with their local emergency management partners and various members of the public health community to assist with unmet needs and resources.



Statewide Testing Underway:

TDEM had 77 active community-based collection sites March 3

TDEM had 81 sites scheduled for March 4

Total Tests collected March 2: 5,304  
TMD/EMTF Total Collection to date: 509,057  
Total Nursing Home tests collected to date: 109,200  
Private vendor testing Total collection to date: 1,934,904  
Private and Military 2,443,961 w/out TDJC

QRF functions with private vendor engagement underway. As of November 16, 59 missions. No STARS open.

**Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife):** Pony Express Team members made the following deliveries/retrievals yesterday:

- 1 PPE deliveries to schools, county/governmental facilities, Fire Dept.
- 1 PPE delivery to 1 Chamber of Commerce
- 14 Pallets moved from Armory to RAC
- 4,120 Binax tests & PPE delivered to 6 School Districts
- 1,400 Binax tests delivered to TAMU System Colleges (Forest Service)
- 700 Vaccines delivered to 3 Public Health Departments or Medical Facilities
- 110 Vaccines transported from DSHS pharmacy to airport

A County Agent Strike Team member and two DAR Agents delivered 400 vaccines to UTSA, 200 vaccines to Live Oak Health Partners Clinic in San Marcos, 200 vaccines to the Austin RSA for the TMD Site in Sarita and for the Lee County SOS site and pony expressed 200 vaccines to TMD personnel for the San Jacinto County site on March 2. The DAR Agent in Corpus Christi picked up 100 Moderna vaccines from DPS Air, delivered it to the Kenedy County TMD Vaccination Site and remained onsite to assist.

Eight DAR agents are rotating schedules supporting the three FEMA mass vaccine sites in Dallas, Arlington, and Houston. AgriLife has a DAR agent assigned to assist TDEM with COVID-19 Testing Team data management beginning February 8, 2020. One DAR Agent is assigned to assist TEEX with Binax testing of legislative officials and guests at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room testing site at the State Capitol from January 15 until the end of the legislative session.

**Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX):** TEEX continues to coordinate operations from the SOC and the 8 IST Resource Staging Areas (RSA) throughout Texas in 11 distribution locations. TEEX currently has 55 personnel deployed to support ongoing response activities throughout the state. RELLIS Campus operating in support of TDEM equipment reconstitution efforts.

**Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS):** TFS currently has 7 personnel assigned to support the ongoing COVID-19 Response activities. Resources are providing logistical support to the TDEM at warehouses and at the SOC.

**Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC):** The TAHC supports assessing Texas animals for COVID-19 testing and tracks testing results: to date, 51



animals in Texas have tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus. TAHC has conducted 59 Animal Assessments.

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) announced confirmation of COVID-19 in a cougar at a facility that exhibits wild animals in Texas.

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):** TCEQ has created a link specific for COVID-19 on our public webpage.  
<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/covid-19/tceq-preparedness-responsibilities-covid-19>

**Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR):**

- TDLR continues to update their website's COVID-19 page (<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/covid19.htm>) with the latest developments affecting their licensees and the public.
- A searchable database of all emergency licenses is now available here: <https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/emergency-licenses.htm>
- TDLR will not issue printed emergency licenses, and licensees are not required to post or display proof of an emergency license. Anyone needing verification or authorization of an emergency license should be directed to this webpage: <https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/emergency-licenses.htm>
- All TDLR licensees with a renewable license that expired between August 1, 2020 and January 31, 2021 will be considered to hold an emergency license valid for up to 120 days after their expiration date.
- TDLR previously adopted an emergency rule granting the emergency licenses on November 23. The original extension involved licenses that expired between August 1 and November 30, 2020. This additional extension was approved by TDLR Executive Director Brian E. Francis.

**Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS):** DPS Aviation Operations Division (AOD) is currently providing transportation of vaccines to health providers and TMD vaccination sites. Texas Highway Patrol (THP) personnel have been responding to assistance for security and ground transportation of commodities when requested. As of February 28, DPS Aviation has conducted 403 flights, totaling 1,302 hours of flight time, and has transported approximately 7,020 vaccines around the state in support of COVID-19 Air Bridge.

On March 1, DPS Aviation supported the delivery of vaccines to El Paso, Midland, Lubbock, Tyler, Dallas, and McAllen.

**Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS):** DSHS Call Center Activities: [The Call Center has received 44,046 calls and 38,735 emails to date.](#) The Call Center continues to operate Monday-Friday from 8:00AM -6:00PM and Saturday-Sunday from 8:00AM – 5:00PM.

- Providing Vaccinator support to Amarillo (20 personnel) and Laredo (8 personnel) State Supported Vaccine Clinics.
- DSHS continues to work with HHSC to distribute live-saving monoclonal antibody therapies to Nursing Facilities to treat residents who have been diagnosed with COVID-19.
- The SMOC is working alongside TDEM and the DSHS Immunizations Unit to monitor, track and report on vaccine operations.

**Texas Education Agency (TEA):** To view TEA support and guidance for school districts regarding COVID-19 please visit <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/safe-and-healthy-schools/coronavirus-covid-19-support-and-guidance>.

COVID-19 Rapid Testing Pilot Program for Texas school systems update: (BinaxNOW School Testing Project)

Number of School Districts/Systems

- 845 school districts/systems have opted in
- 1,153 deliveries have been made to school districts/systems overall

Number of Tests\*

- 1,712,326 tests have been requested
- 1,853,915 tests have already been distributed
- 59,320 tests have been returned due to opting out or not being able to use before expiration date

\*Number distributed exceeds number requested due to delivery of full box quantities

**Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF):** [EMTF continues to support COVID-19 response in 8 EMTF Regions with 33 personnel across the state.](#)

**Texas Military Department (TMD):** [TMD currently has 2,004 personnel in support of COVID-19 Response.](#) TMD General Support Units are staged in Tyler, Dallas, Lubbock, El Paso, San Antonio, Austin, Houston, Corpus Christi, Weslaco, and Midland to implement the TDEM distribution plan to the RSAs/RACs. TMD is supporting DDC 8 El Paso with mortuary affairs. TMD is supporting a call center and battalion HQ to support TDEM. [TMD is supporting food bank operations in Tarrant County, Coastal Bend, San Antonio, Rio Grande Valley, Laredo, West Texas, El Paso, Montgomery County, and North Texas have distributed 16,544,343 meals \(19,853,211 pounds of food\).](#) TMD has personnel for Testing Team at the State Capitol Building, Camp Mabry/Bldg. 75, and Camp Mabry/SMRC and Austin. TMD activated TMD Healthcare Vaccine Support personnel to support TDEM and currently has Vaccination Teams in Houston, Dallas, Arlington, Brewster, Denton County, Panola County, Gray County, Cottle County, Hutchinson County, Brown County, Bailey County, Irion County, Medina County, Orange County, Chambers County, Brenham, San Jacinto County, Brazos County, Robertson County, Shelby County, Brooks County, Refugio County, and Jim Hogg

County.

**Texas Public Utilities Commission (PUC):** PUC has created a link specific for COVID-19 on our public webpage. <http://www.puc.texas.gov/covid-19/>

**Texas Wing – Civil Air Patrol (CAP):** CAP provided one ground sortie delivering 960 meals to Shepherd’s Heart – Robinson Food Pantry in Robinson.

**Texas Workforce Commission (TWC):**  
Unemployment Insurance:

- Call centers are open 7 days a week 7:00 AM-7:00 PM. `
- TWC Website, Information for COVID-19 [Frequently Asked Questions](#).
- Expanded the number of people doing pin and password resets.

### STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
AgriLife, TAMUS	Specialists/Admin	22		Activated	College Station
AgriLife, TAMUS	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	SOC/Austin
AgriLife, TAMUS	DAR Extension Agents	18	18	Assigned	Statewide
AgriLife, TAMUS	Incident Support Teams	16	16	Assigned	Regional Advisory Council Areas
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	12		Assigned	Austin
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	5		Assigned	Corpus Christi / Weslaco
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	4		Assigned	Dallas
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	6		Assigned	El Paso / Midland
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	19		Assigned	San Antonio
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	6		Assigned	Tyler
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	2		Assigned	Lubbock
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST)	3		Assigned	Houston
TEEX, TAMUS	SOC Liaisons	10		Assigned	Remote SOC/Austin

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TEEX TAMUS	Vaccine Centers	3		Assigned	Dallas / Arlington / Houston
TFS, A&M	ESB/ESF 4 Representative	1		Assigned	SOC/Austin
TFS, A&M	Logistical Support	3		Assigned	San Antonio Warehouse
TFS, A&M	Logistical Support	3		Assigned	Houston Warehouse
DPS-THP	Liaison	1		Assigned	SOC/Austin
DPS-AOD	Aviation			Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Deployed Medical Staff	33		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	State Coordinating Office (SCO)	7		Assigned	SOC
DSHS	Angel Med Surge	3,804		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Maxim Med Surge	2,614		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	BCFS Med Surge	8,750		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Case Investigators	6		Assigned	PHR 6/5S Hardin Co.
DSHS	Infection Control Practitioner	7		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Epidemiologists	37		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Data Entry Spec	8		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Fatality Management Trailer (FMT) - HPP		16	Assigned	HPPs
DSHS	FMT - FEMA		37	Assigned	Austin, Beaumont, Brownsville, Conroe, Corsicana, Dallas, Edinburg, El Paso, Ft. Worth, Kilgore, Mission, Odessa, Rio

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
					Grande City, San Antonio, Temple, Tyler, Waco
HHSC	SOC Liaison	4		Assigned	SOC/Austin
PUC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Remote
TAHC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Virtual
TDA	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Remote
TDLR	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Remote
TEA	SOC Liaison	2		Assigned	Remote
TMD	BDE JTF Mission Command	85		Activated	Austin
TMD	BN Mission Command – TF Support	19		Assigned	Austin
TMD	Testing Strike Team	6		Assigned	Austin
TMD	Contact Tracing	11		Assigned	Austin
TMD	RSA-HQ	8		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	RSA-ABIA	4		Assigned	Austin-Bergstrom Int'l Airport
TMD	RAC-AUSTIN	10		Assigned	Austin
TMD	RSA-Corpus	4		Assigned	Corpus Christi
TMD	RAC-Corpus	5		Assigned	Corpus Christi
TMD	RSA-Redbird	8		Assigned	Dallas (Redbird)
TMD	RSA-El Paso	8		Assigned	El Paso
TMD	RAC-El Paso	4		Assigned	El Paso
TMD	RSA-Lubbock	2		Assigned	Lubbock
TMD	RSA-Lufkin TDEM	2		Assigned	Lufkin
TMD	RSA-Midland	4		Assigned	Midland
TMD	RSA-SA TDEM SSA	15		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	RSA-San Antonio	13		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	RAC-San Antonio	6		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	RSA-Tyler	6		Assigned	Tyler
TMD	RAC-Tyler	2		Assigned	Tyler
TMD	RSA-Weslaco	8		Assigned	Weslaco
TMD	RAC-Weslaco	4		Assigned	Weslaco
TMD	RSA-Westheimer	7		Assigned	Westheimer
TMD	RSA-Standby	0		Assigned	Various
TMD	GSU El Paso-Mortuary	38		Assigned	El Paso

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TMD	GSU San Antonio Food Bank	62		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	GSU RGV Food Bank	32		Assigned	Weslaco
TMD	GSU Coastal Bend Food Bank	15		Assigned	Corpus Christi
TMD	GSU Tarrant County Food Bank	33		Assigned	Fort Worth
TMD	GSU South Texas Food Bank	33		Assigned	Laredo
TMD	GSU Laredo Regional Food Bank	28		Activated	Laredo
TMD	GSU Montgomery County Food Bank	10		Assigned	Conroe
TMD	GSU- West Texas Food Bank	21		Assigned	Midland
TMD	GSU El Paso Food Bank	93		Assigned	El Paso
TMD	GSU North Texas Food Bank	34		Assigned	Plano
TMD	TF COVAX HQ (BNMC)	41		Assigned	Austin
TMD	Covax Support HQ	1			
TMD	MOBILE VAC TEAM (TF North)	426		Assigned	Various
TMD	MOBILE VAC TEAM (TF Central)	297		Assigned	Various
TMD	MOBILE VAC TEAM (TF South)	346		Assigned	Various
TMD	Capitol Testing Team	43		Assigned	Austin
TMD	GSU- Call Center	75		Assigned	Austin
TMD	BN Mission CMD Call Center - BNMC	0		Assigned	Austin
TMD	VAC Admin Support GSU	10		Assigned	Chambers Co
TMD	VAC Admin Support GSU & HQ	10		Assigned	Hardin & Orange Co
TMD	Adaptive Battle Staff - JFHQ	95		Assigned	Austin
TMD	SOC Support Team	20		Assigned	Austin-SOC
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin

**FINAL COMMENTS:** The State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

*This Situation Report can also be found on the TDEM webpage at:*  
<https://tdem.texas.gov/situation-reports/>

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